name, address and telephone number of the contact persons to be contacted in case of emergency should be obtained.

4. The Railway Authorities on the basis of information so obtained will print out a card giving the full particulars of the passenger name and address of the passenger as well as that of contact persons to be contacted in case of emergency. The boarding station as well as the destination to be printed out/typed out in bold letters.

5. Each physically handicapped/challenged person, blind, deaf and dumb or otherwise sick person travelling on concessional fare should carry the card to enable seeking assistance from fellow passengers/travellers in case of need.

6. The Train Ticket Examiner/Guard or the concerned staff should be given a duplicate copy of the card and made responsible to ensure that physically handicapped/challenged person has no difficulty in boarding or alighting from the train or during travel.

The above directions given by the Hon'ble High Court are being examined.

Railway stations vulnerable to terrorists

2199. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have conducted any survey to identify rail tracks and railway stations that might get terrorists' attention; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir. However, some important stations have been identified a vulnerable to terrorist attack by the State Governments concerned because maintenance of Law and Order on the Railways including the running trains and Railway lines in the responsibility of the State Governments.

(b) The Railways have taken the following steps:—

(i) All the State Governments have been requested to take adequate steps to protect the Railway installations including the track.

(ii) The Chief Security Commissioners have been directed to co-ordinate with the Police authorities so that a concerted effort is made by both the authorities.

(iii) Armed pickets of RPF have been deployed at vulnerable stations/ sections to supplement the preventive measures taken by the Police.

Towns/Districts without rail link

2200. SHRI R. KAMARAJ:
SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many important towns and district headquarters in the country are not having rail link;

(b) if so, the names of such places, State-wise;

(c) the details of the proposals with Government to provide rail link for those places and the amount of funds earmarked for the same; and

(d) by when these proposals would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) Most of the important towns and district headquarters in the country have been provided with access to rail services. The expansion of the rail network is a continuous and need based exercise that is undertaken by taking an integrated view of the nation's requirement and keeping the overall resource availability in mind. While doing so, all representations/proposals received from the State Governments, public representatives, user agencies, and other public interest groups/ individuals are also kept in mind. At present about 8500 kms of new rail lines are sanctioned at a cost of approx. Rs. 27,650 crores.

Extension of Dangri-Saikhowa section of NF Railway

2201. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for extension of Dangri-Saikhowa section of NF Railway; and